

**Amos, Jeffries &  
Robinson, LLP**  
Attorneys at Law

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REGULATORY AUTH.

**FAX MEMORANDUM**

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To: Richard Collier

**Fax Number: 615-741-5015**

From: Jerry Amos

OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

cc: All parties of record

Date: June 2, 2000

Number of Pages, Including  
Cover Sheet: ONE

99-00994

I was in meetings yesterday afternoon and last evening, and I did not receive your fax until I returned to my office at 10:30 p.m. last night. Nevertheless, I had a brief discussion with the Consumer Advocate Division this morning, and we both feel that we need a clearer understanding of the Staff's intent before we can properly respond. For example, will any questions asked by the Staff be for the sole purpose of determining if the stipulation agreed to by the parties is fair and reasonable or will they be for other purposes? Will the answers to the Staff's questions be for the purpose of establishing evidence to support some position of the Staff, and, if so, will the parties be advised of the Staff's position in sufficient time to address that position? Will the parties be permitted to see and respond to any report made by the Staff to the Directors that is based in whole or in part upon any evidence elicited by the Staff's questions? Will the Staff's questions seek the disclosure of any matters discussed in the confidential settlement negotiations between Nashville Gas and the Consumer Advocate Division?

Obviously, if the Staff has any concerns about the stipulation, in the same spirit of cooperation that led to the stipulation, we would like to address them; however, it will be extremely difficult for us to do so at the hearing if we are not advised in advance of the nature of those concerns. Therefore, it would be helpful if the Staff could submit its questions in advance.

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